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C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 000676

SIPDIS

NOFORN

DEPT FOR EUR KENNEDY; EUR/SE AND EUR/ERA

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [CY](#) [TU](#) [EUN](#) [USEU](#) [BRUSSELS](#)

SUBJECT: MANDATE FOR COMMISSIONER'S NEW CYPRUS ADVISOR

REF: BRUSSELS 659

Classified By: Harry O'Hara, reasons 1.4 b/d

[11](#). (C) We contacted Jean-Christophe Filori, Commissioner Rehn's Cabinet advisor on Turkey and Cyprus, regarding the mandate of Jaako Blomberg, the Commissioner's new "Special Advisor" on Cyprus. Filori (protect) told us Blomberg's immediate responsibility will be to pressure the Cypriots to end the current impasse/stalemate caused in large part by Greek Cypriot unwillingness to state what they are prepared to do to help bring the UN back into the game. Blomberg will also work with the Turkish Cypriots, Turkey and Greece. Filori said that this should be seen as enhancing efforts to keep unification negotiations in the UN. Filori emphasized that Commissioner Rehn opposes having the EU replace the UN as the forum for a settlement on Cyprus.

[12](#). (C) Once the UN process is revived, Blomberg would then be the EC's point person working with the UN and making recommendations to the EC how they could complement the work of the UN. Filori said that the Commission would also be talking to the UN about the Blomberg appointment.

[13](#). (SBU) Filori said that while no starting date had been fixed for Blomberg, the expectation is for early spring. He told us that he would convey Ambassador Kennedy's invitation to come to Washington and agreed that having such a meeting "early" would be important. Filori commented that Blomberg has a good reputation for being active as the number two person in the Finnish MFA for helping the Finnish EU Presidency engineer a Council conclusion in December 1999 declaring Turkey as a "candidate country." Filori said that this should strengthen Blomberg's credibility with Turkey.

[14](#). (C/NF) Filori admitted that the Greek Cypriots have been lobbying member states to convince them to have the EU take over the settlement talks. He said that Commissioner Rehn strongly opposes this as do most member-states.

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